

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present Preliminary Amendment-A the claims in the application are claims in the application are claims 1, 3-10 and 12-20, of which claim 1 is independent.

Claims 14, 15, 17 and 20 are amended to depend from claim 1 because claim 2 from which they previously depended has been cancelled in Amendment-C.

Applicant respectfully submits that all of the above amendments are fully supported by the original application. Applicant also respectfully submits the amendment does not raise any new issue for consideration by the Examiner in that the amendment to claims 14, 15, 17 and 19 simply gives the claims proper dependency.

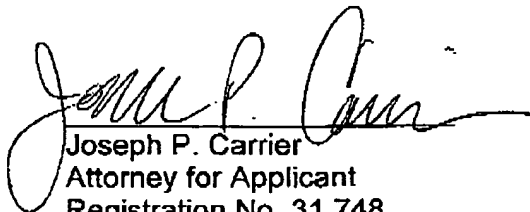
Other Matters

Applicant's positions regarding the merits of the claimed invention and of the final Office Action of November 28, 2002, remain as set forth in Amendment-C

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

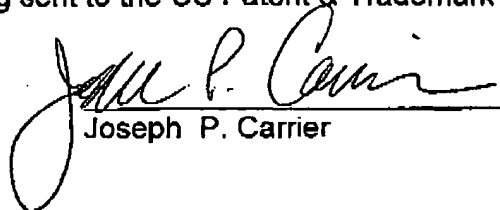
Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent to the US Patent & Trademark Office, Art Unit 1775 , on July 28, 2003.


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